

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 4 and 9, and add new Claim 14 as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, now read as follows:

1. (Previously presented) A method of controlling an information processing apparatus which supplies print data to a printer, comprising:

a generating step of generating print data for printing a document on the printer;

a determining step of determining whether or not the document includes a page which is not printed by the printer;

a print setting structure output step of outputting, when it is determined in said determination step that the document includes a page which is not printed by the printer, a print setting structure indicating that the page is not subject to billing to a rendering unit of an OS; and

a providing step of providing the print data to the printer,

wherein said generating step generates a non-billing command upon receiving the print setting structure via the rendering unit, and

wherein said providing step provides the non-billing command to the printer before the printer prints the page of the document, so that the printer does not perform a process relating to billing for the page during printing of the document based on the print data.

2. (Previously presented) A method of controlling an information processing apparatus that supplies print data to a printer which comprises a middle insert unit configured to insert index sheet between printed print sheets upon printing and exhausting print sheets, the method comprising:

a setting step of setting whether or not an index sheet is to be inserted;
a generating step of generating print data for printing a document on the printer;
and
a providing step of providing the print data to the printer,
wherein said providing step provides a non-billing command to the printer before
processing the index sheet in the printer so that the index sheet is not subject to the billing.

3. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, further comprising a determining step of determining whether or not the printer is compatible to the non-billing command provided in said providing step.

4. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing a computer-executable program for making a computer connected to a printer, which comprises a middle insert unit configured to insert an index sheet between printed print sheets upon printing and exhausting print sheets, execute:

a setting step of setting whether or not an index sheet is to be inserted;
a generating step of generating print data for printing a document on the printer;
and
a providing step of providing the print data to the printer,
wherein said providing step provides a non-billing command to the printer before
processing the index sheet in the printer so that the index sheet is not subject to the billing.

5. (Previously presented) An information processing apparatus that supplies print data to a printer which comprises a middle insert unit configured to insert an index sheet between printed print sheets upon printing and exhausting print sheets, comprising:

setting means for setting whether or not an index sheet is to be inserted;

generating means for generating print data for printing a document on the printer;

and

providing means for providing the print data to the printer,

wherein said providing means provides a non-billing command to the printer

before processing the index sheet in the printer so that the index sheet is not subject to the billing.

6. (Previously presented) A print system having a printer which comprises a middle insert unit configured to insert index sheet between printed print sheets upon printing and exhausting print sheets, and a host computer connected to said printer,

said host computer comprising:

a setting unit configured to set whether or not an index

sheet is to be inserted;

a generating unit configured to generate print data for printing a document

on said printer;

a providing unit configured to provide the print data to said printer; and

an instructing unit configured to, when said setting

unit sets that the index sheet is to be inserted, instruct said printer to

exclude the index sheet to be inserted from sheets to be billed when said printer prints the

document based on the print data, and

said printer comprising:

 a printing unit configured to print the document based on the provided
 print data;

 a counting unit configured to count the number of
 sheets for the purpose of billing; and

 a controlling unit configured to control a count operation of said counting
 unit on the basis of an instruction from said instructing unit, so that said counting unit does not
 count up the number of sheets for the purpose of billing when the index sheet is inserted, and
 counts up the number of sheets for the purpose of billing when the printed sheet is discharged.

7. (Previously presented) A method of controlling an information processing
apparatus that supplies print data to a printer which comprises a print unit capable of forming
images on two faces of a print sheet and exhausting the printed print sheet, the method
comprising:

 a setting step of setting whether or not a blank sheet is to be inserted between
 printed print sheets;

 a generating step of generating print data for printing a document on the printer;
 and

 a providing step of providing the print data to the printer,
 wherein said providing step provides a non-billing command to the printer before
 processing the blank sheet in the printer so that the blank sheet is not subject to the billing.

8. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 7, further comprising a determination step of determining whether or not the printer is compatible to the non-billing command provided in said providing step.

9. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing a computer-executable program for making a computer that supplies print data to a printer, which comprises a print unit capable of forming images on two faces of a print sheet and exhausting the printed print sheet, execute:

 a setting step of setting whether or not a blank sheet is to be inserted between printed print sheets;

 a generating step of generating print data for printing a document on the printer;
and

 a providing step of providing the print data to the printer,
 wherein said providing step provides a non-billing command to the printer before processing the blank sheet in the printer so that the blank sheet is not subject to the billing.

10. (Previously presented) An information processing apparatus that supplies print data to a printer which comprises a printing unit capable of forming images on two faces of a print sheet and exhausting the printed print sheet, comprising:

 a setting unit configured to set whether or not a blank sheet is to be inserted between printed print sheets;

 a generating unit configured to generate print data for printing a document on the printer; and

a providing step of providing the print data to the printer,
wherein said providing unit provides a non-billing command to the printer before
processing the blank sheet in the printer so that the blank sheet is not subject to the billing.

11. (Previously presented) A print system which has a printer which comprises a
print unit capable of forming images on two faces of a print sheet, and a host computer connected
to said printer,

said host computer comprising:

a setting unit configured to set whether or not a blank sheet is to be
inserted between printed print sheets;

a generation unit configured to generate print data for printing a document
on said printer;

a providing unit configured to provide the print data to said printer; and
an instruction unit configured to, when said setting unit sets that the blank
sheet is to be inserted, instructs said printer to exclude the blank sheet to be inserted from
sheets to be billed when said printer prints the document based on the print data, and

said printer comprising:

a print unit configured to print the document based on the provided print
data;

a count unit configured to count the number of sheets for the purpose of
billing; and

a control unit configured to control a count operation of said count unit on the basis of an instruction from said instruction unit, so that said count unit does not count up the number of sheets for the purpose of billing when the blank sheet is inserted, and counts up the number of sheets for the purpose of billing when the printed sheet is discharged.

12. (Previously presented) A printing method for a printer which comprises a middle insert unit configured to insert an index sheet between printed print sheets upon printing and exhausting print sheets, and a host computer connected to said printer, said method comprising:

performing by the host computer:

a setting step of setting whether or not an index sheet is to be inserted;

a generating step of generating print data for printing a document on said printer;

a providing step of providing unit configured to provide the print data to said printer; and

an instructing step of, when said setting step sets that the index sheet is to be inserted, instructing said printer to exclude the index sheet to be inserted from sheets to be billed when said printer prints the document based on the print data, and

performing by the printer:

a printing step of printing the document based on the provided print data;

a counting step of counting the number of sheets for the purpose of billing; and

a controlling step of controlling a count operation of said counting step on the basis of an instruction from said instructing step, so that said counting step does not count up the number of sheets for the purpose of billing when the index sheet is inserted, and counts up the number of sheets for the purpose of billing when the printed sheet is discharged.

13. (Previously presented) A method for a print system which has a printer which comprises a print unit capable of forming images on two faces of a print sheet, and a host computer connected to said printer,

said host computer performing:

a setting step of setting whether or not a blank sheet is to be inserted between printed print sheets;

a generation step of generating print data for printing a document on said printer;

a providing step of providing the print data to said printer₂ [:] and an instruction step of, when said setting step sets that the blank sheet is to be inserted, instructing said printer to exclude the blank sheet to be inserted from sheets to be billed when said printer prints the document based on the print data, and

said printer performing:

a print step of printing the document based on the provided print data;

a count step of counting the number of sheets for the purpose of billing;

and

a control step of controlling a count operation of said count step on the basis of an instruction from said instruction step, so that said count step does not count up the number of sheets for the purpose of billing when the blank sheet is inserted, and counts up the number of sheets for the purpose of billing when the printed sheet is discharged.

14. (New) A computer-readable storage medium storing a computer-executable program for controlling an information processing apparatus which supplies print data to a printer, said program comprising:

code for a generating step of generating print data for printing a document on the printer;

code for a determining step of determining whether or not the document includes a page which is not printed by the printer;

code for a print setting structure output step of outputting, when it is determined in said determination step that the document includes a page which is not printed by the printer, a print setting structure indicating that the page is not subject to billing to a rendering unit of an OS; and

code for a providing step of providing the print data to the printer, wherein said generating step generates a non-billing command upon receiving the print setting structure via the rendering unit, and

wherein said providing step provides the non-billing command to the printer before the printer prints the page of the document, so that the printer does not perform a process relating to billing for the page during printing of the document based on the print data.